

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-29 are pending in the application. In the Office Action, claims 9-15, 17-23 and 28 are allowed. Claim 3-7 are objected to. Claims 1, 2, 8, 16, 24-27 and 29 stand rejected. Applicants respectfully respond to the Office Action as set forth below.

Claim 29 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Claim 29 has been amended by this amendment. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 1, 2, 16, 24, 25 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Fan* (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0079021). In addition, claims 8 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Fan* in view of *Faccin et al.* (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0120759).

Applicants respectfully disagree. Nevertheless, to expedite prosecution and without acquiescing to the Examiner's positions, claims 1, 2, 8, 16 and 24-27 have been canceled. Consequently, the rejection is thereby rendered moot.

With respect to claims 3-7 which are objected to, each of claims 3-7 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. In addition, claim 28 has been amended. More specifically, the phrase "processor means adapted to" has been amended to "a processor configured to." Applicants believe no new matter is involved. Entry of amended claims 3-7 and 28 is respectfully requested.

The cited but not relied upon references have been studied but found to be less relevant than the relied upon references.

**PATENT**

In light of the above amendment and remarks, all claims remaining in the application, i.e., claims 3-7, 9-15, 17-23, 28 and 29, are submitted to be patentable over the prior art and in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and an early allowance are respectfully requested.

In the event of any fees that may be due or any overpayments that may be associated with this response, please charge or deposit the amount to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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